District of Orissa. The report *interalia* covers the details of mining and Environmental Management Plan.

The report will be assessed while considering environmental clearance of the proposal.

Sanctuary in Kalahandi district in Orissa

1040. SHRI BASANT KUMAR DAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Orissa to create a Sanctuary in Kalahandi district; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; if not, whether the central Government propose to create a sanctuary in Karlapat region within Thuamal-Rampur Block in Kalahandi district in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Government of Orissa have declared 'Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary' vide its Gazette Notification No. 24498/F&E dated 15-10-92 under Section 18 of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The State Government is empowered by the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to declare an area as wildlife sanctuary.

Construction activities inside the boundaries of sanctuaries

1041. SHRI KRISHAN KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction activities and building of roads are taking place inside the boundaries of sanctuaries and national parks in various states in violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 threatening the wild life and the environs;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) In terms of the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 only such construction activity can be permitted in a Sanctuary or a National Park as is ancillary to conservation, development and management of forests and wildlife. There are no reports that construction activity is being permitted in the Sanctuaries and National Parks in violation of the Act.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

National Parks Face Danger From Skies

1042. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a press news-item captioned 'National Parks face danger from skies' as reported in the Indian Express dated the 3rd February, 1993;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether Government have recently contemplated any steps to save the National Parks from the danger of skies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There have been some cases of illegal landing, which were noted in April, 91, October and December, 92. A case against illegal landing of a helicopter in the Corbett Tiger Reserve has been instituted by the Government of Uttar Pradesh against the India International Airways Private Ltd. The Ministry has requested the State Government for early action in the case.

(c) No fresh measures are contemplated as the provisions under the Wildlife Protection Act are considered adequate.

(d) Does not arise.

National Parks affected by Militant Activities

1043. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Parks in India have transformed as New Heaven for terrorists; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that as many as seven of the Nineteen National Parks under Project Tiger are reported to be seriously affected by militant and naxalite activity; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that eleven National Parks are in serious trouble due to terrorist activity; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to clear off the National Parks from militant activity and with what success; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d) While no Chief Wildlife Wardens have reported any National Park being in serious trouble due to terrorist activities, it is known that in some of the National Parks, Tiger Reserves and Wildlife Sanctuaries terrorists take shelter. The Tiger Reserves of Manas, Dudhawa, Corbett, Nagarjun Sagar and Indravati are the prominent protected areas affected by terrorist's residancy within their boundaries. Details of the other protected areas similarly affected and the extent of its impact on the management of the protected areas are being ascertained from the State Governments and will be laid on the table of the House. It may however, be mentioned that to combat illegal armed activity in protected areas, assistance is being given to State Governments for purchase of arms, better communication equipment and better transport facilities. In order to ensure that people in the forests or on the fringe areas do not fall prey to terrorist's propaganda, scheme for eco-development in and around protected areas is being implemented to enable the people to have employment, develop alternative sources of tree produce, improve cattle-stock, provide fodder etc.

Poaching in Wild Life Sanctuaries

1044. SHRI TRILOKINATH CHATURVEDI;
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI;

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that poaching in wild life sanctuaries and encroachment of forest land has become a common feature; if so, the number of incidents of poaching and encroachment that have come to the notice of Government from Madhya Pradesh,